Archie ACTION!
ARCHIECOMICS.COM
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
GENESIS OF A HERO
#1
SEGA
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG | 288
25th ANNIVERSARY
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures—a world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

SONIC™

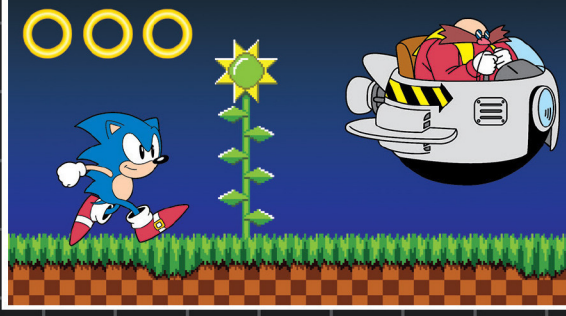
THE HEDGEHOG

THE STORY SO FAR...

Twenty-five years ago, a super-fast hero took the video game market—and the world—by storm! As Sonic the Hedgehog turns the big "Two-Five," we blast to the past for some Classic Adventures!

The evil Dr. Eggman has taken over the Kingdom of Acorn! All seemed lost until a certain blue hedgehog showed up and promised to make things right! Sonic headed off to South Island to stop Dr. Eggman's aggressive mining operations.

Sonic raced from zone to zone, battling badniks, Dr. Snively—a cowardly co-conspirator with Dr. Eggman—and the bald madman himself! Now Sonic has reached Dr. Eggman's stronghold in the Scrap Brain Zone for the final show down...

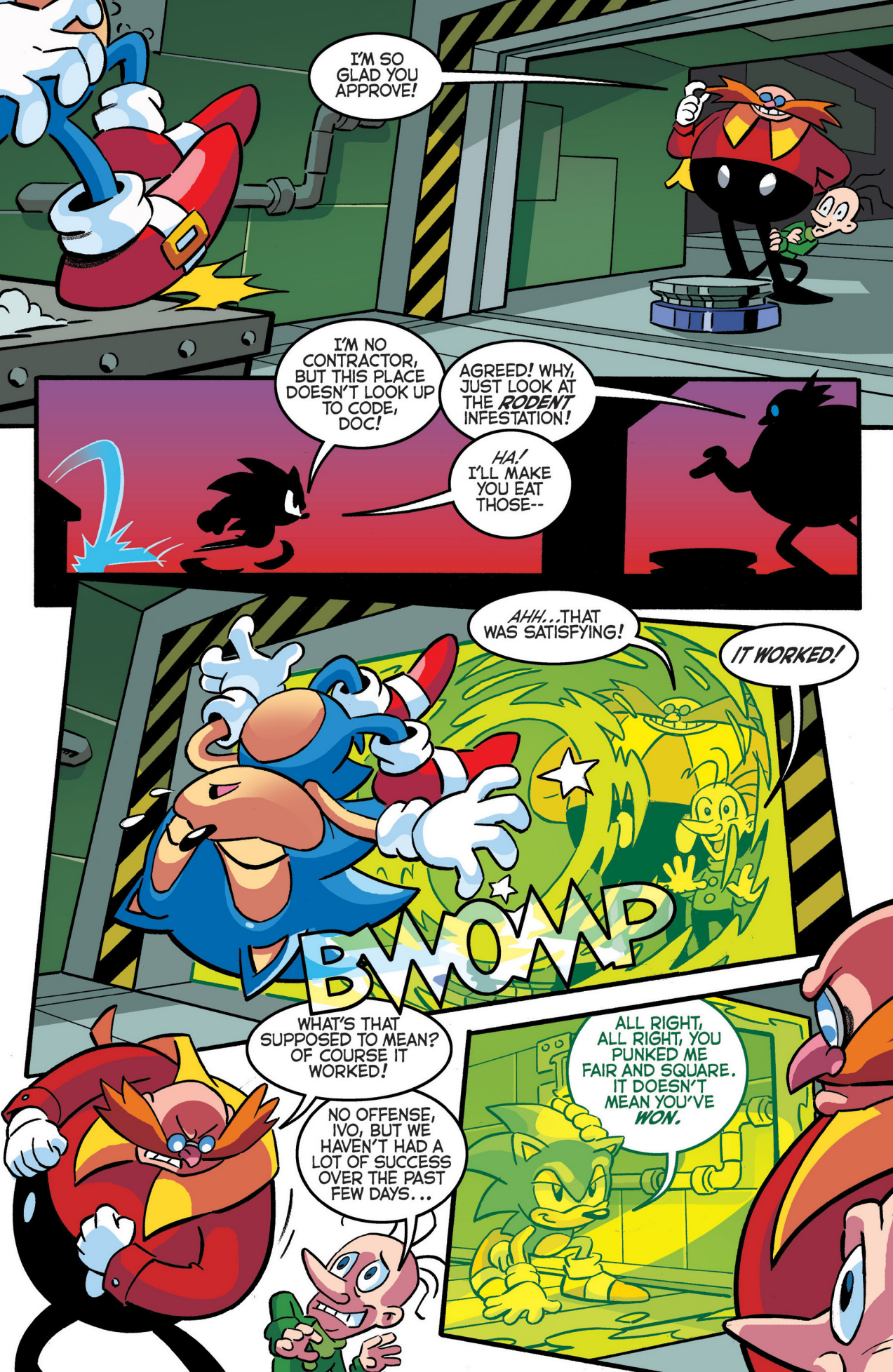


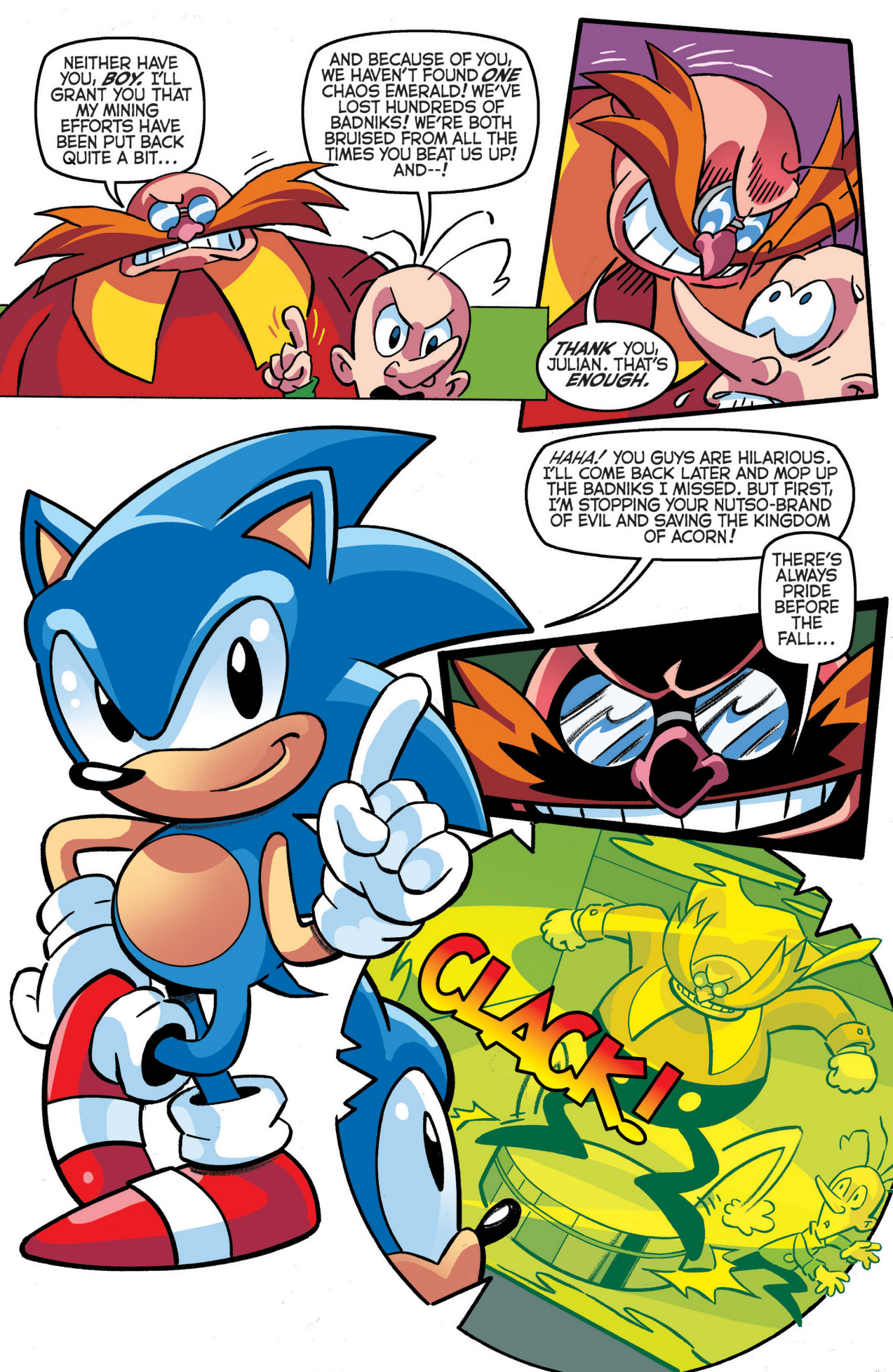
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (ISSN:1070509D), No. 288, January, 2017. Published monthly by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 629 Fifth Avenue, Suite 100, Pelham, NY 10803-1242. Jon Goldwater, Publisher/Co-CEO, Nancy Silberkleit, Co-CEO, Mike Pellerito, President. Victor Gorelick, Co-President. Single copies $3.99. Subscription rate: $47.88 for 12 issues. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. ©SEGA. All rights reserved. SEGA is registered in the US Patent and Trademark Office. SEGA, the SEGA logo, SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, SONIC UNIVERSE and SONIC BOOM™ are either registered trademarks or trademarks of SEGA Holdings Co., Ltd. or its affiliates. The product is manufactured under license from Sega of America, Inc., 250 East Olive Avenue, Ste 200, Burbank, CA 91502 www.sega.com. Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 629 Fifth Avenue, Suite 100, Pelham, NY 10803-1242. . Printed in USA.

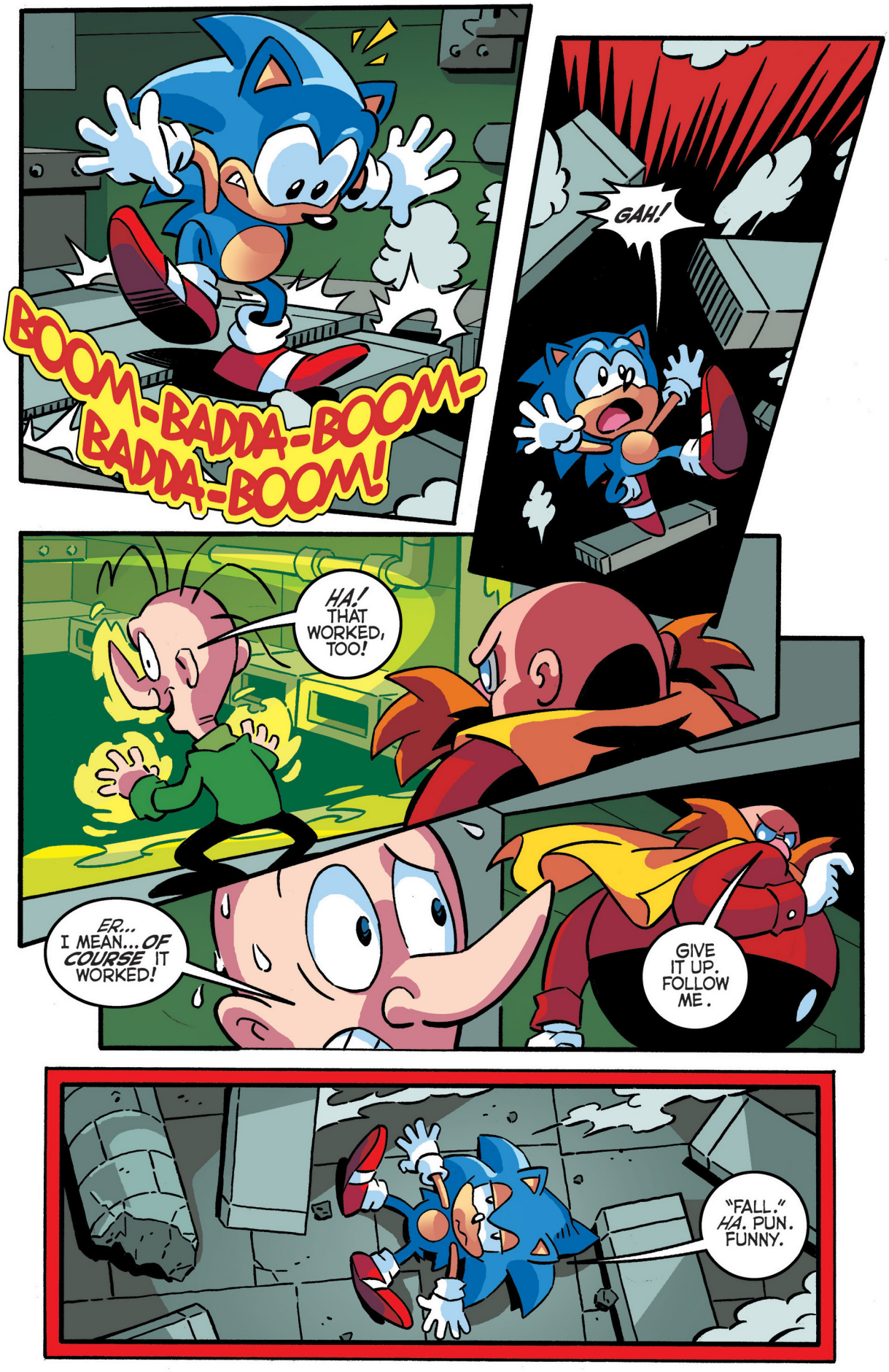
GENESIS OF A HERO

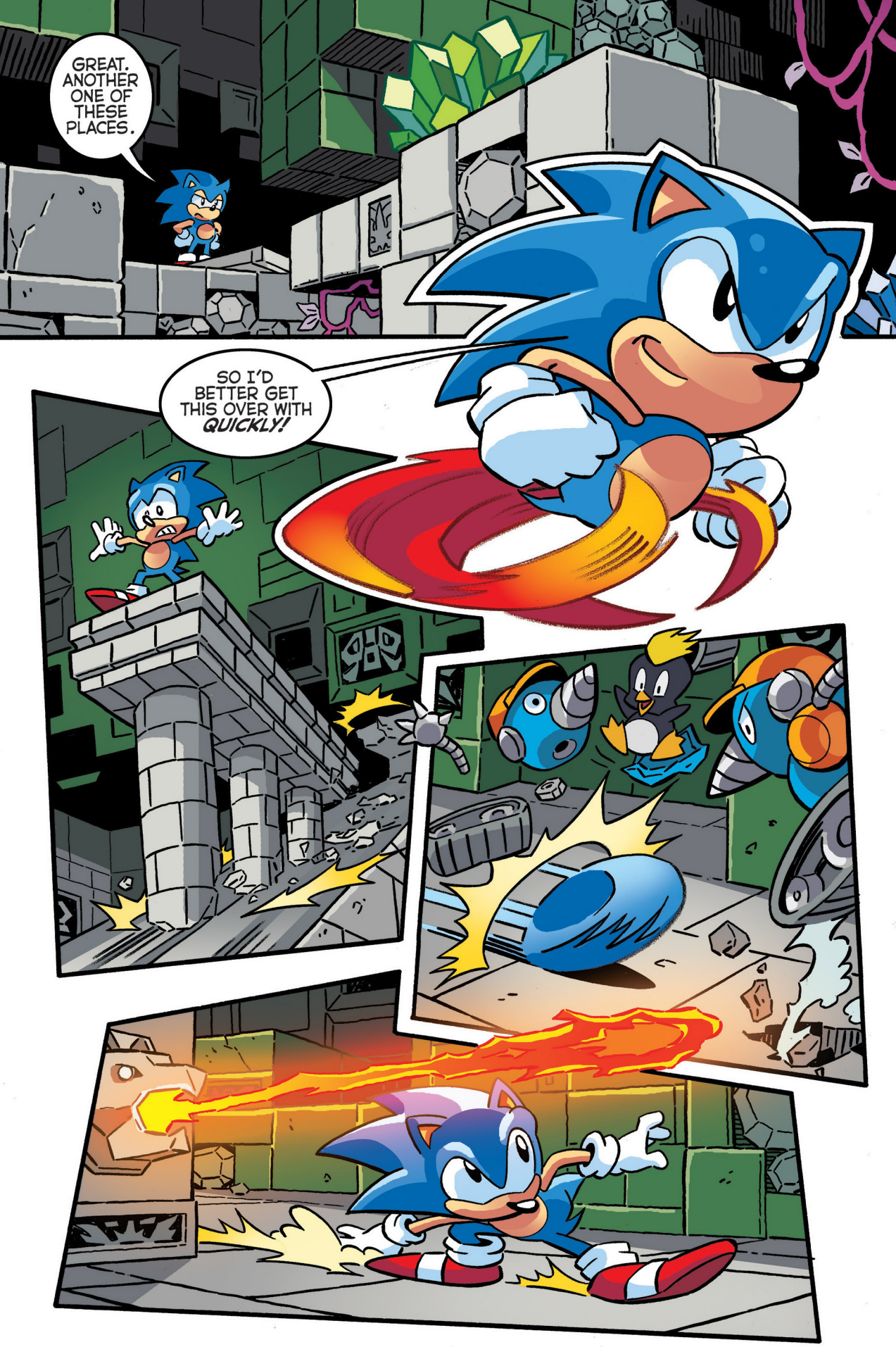
Part One: WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

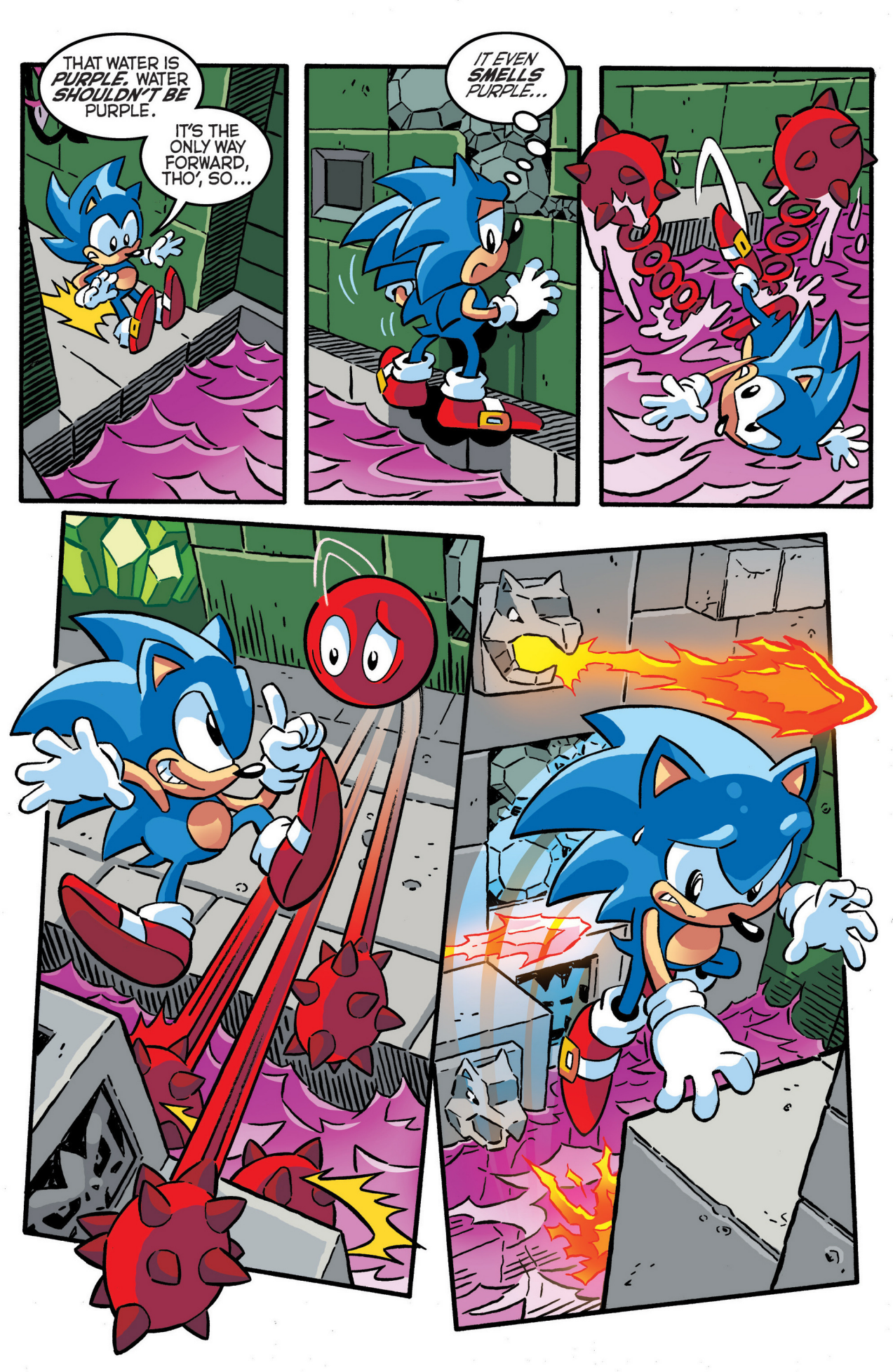
WRITER: IAN FLYNN • PENCILS: TRACY YARDLEY • INKS: TERRY AUSTIN • COLORS: GABRIEL CASSATA • LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN • COVER BY PATRICK SPAZIANTE
BEST BUDS VARIANT BY GENEVIEVE FT
EDITOR: VINCENT LOVALLO • EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: VICTOR GORELICK
PRESIDENT: MIKE PELLERITO • PUBLISHER: JON GOLDWATER
SPECIAL THANKS TO: SANDRA JO AND MAI KIYOTAKI AT SEGA LICENSING

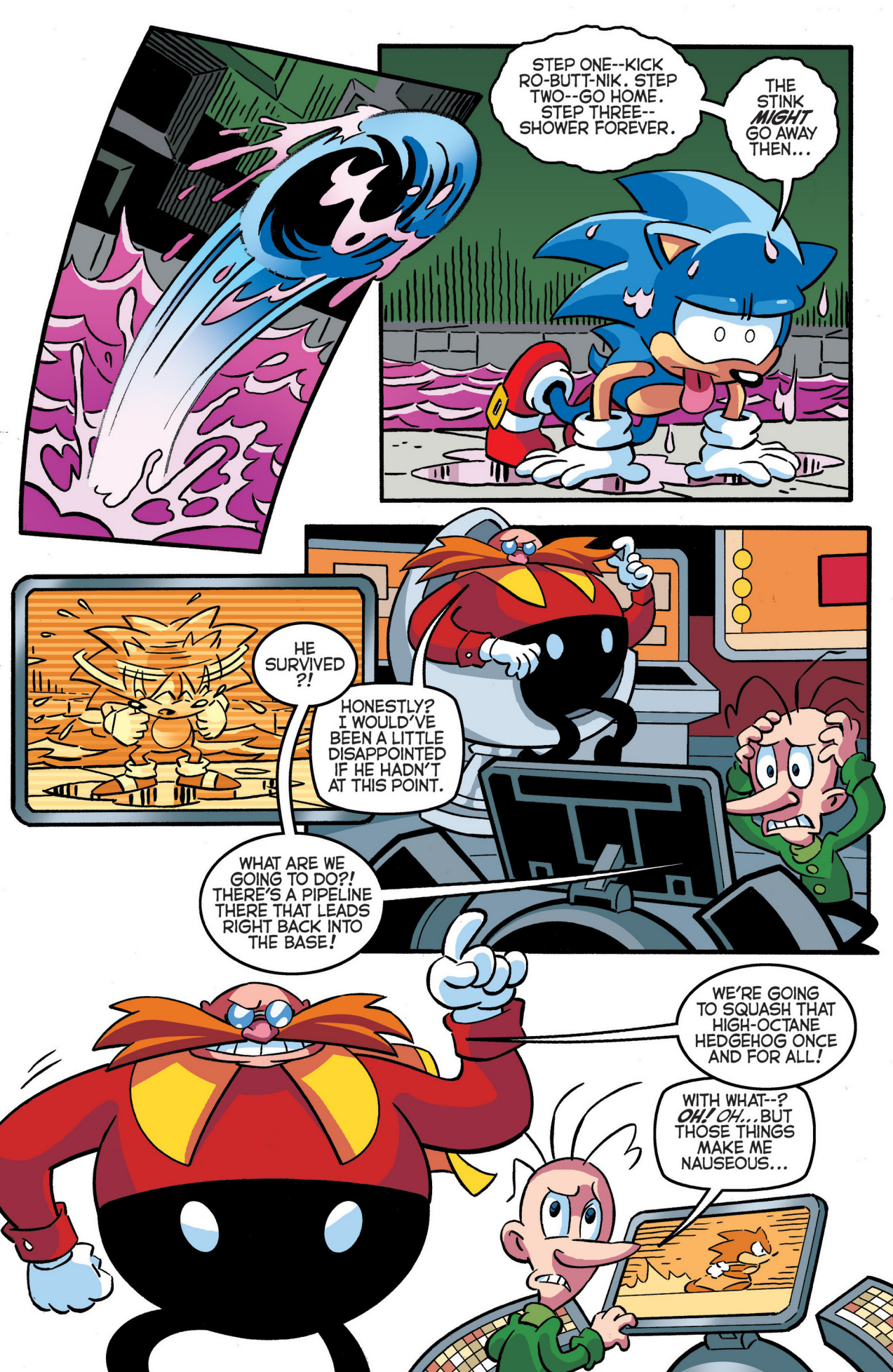

I'M SO GLAD YOU APPROVE!
I'M NO CONTRACTOR, BUT THIS PLACE DOESN'T LOOK UP TO CODE, DOC!
AGREED! WHY, JUST LOOK AT THE RODENT INFESTATION!
HA! I'LL MAKE YOU EAT THOSE--
AHH...THAT WAS SATISFYING!
IT WORKED!
BWOMP
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN? OF COURSE IT WORKED!
NO OFFENSE, IVO, BUT WE HAVEN'T HAD A LOT OF SUCCESS OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS...
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, YOU PUNKED ME FAIR AND SQUARE. IT DOESN'T MEAN YOU'VE WON.


NEITHER HAVE YOU, BOY. I'LL GRANT YOU THAT MY MINING EFFORTS HAVE BEEN PUT BACK QUITE A BIT...
AND BECAUSE OF YOU, WE HAVEN'T FOUND ONE CHAOS EMERALD! WE'VE LOST HUNDREDS OF BADNIKS! WE'RE BOTH BRUISED FROM ALL THE TIMES YOU BEAT US UP! AND--!
THANK YOU, JULIAN. THAT'S ENOUGH.
HAHA! YOU GUYS ARE HILARIOUS. I'LL COME BACK LATER AND MOP UP THE BADNIKS I MISSED. BUT FIRST, I'M STOPPING YOUR NUTSO-BRAND OF EVIL AND SAVING THE KINGDOM OF ACORN!
THERE'S ALWAYS PRIDE BEFORE THE FALL...
CLACK!

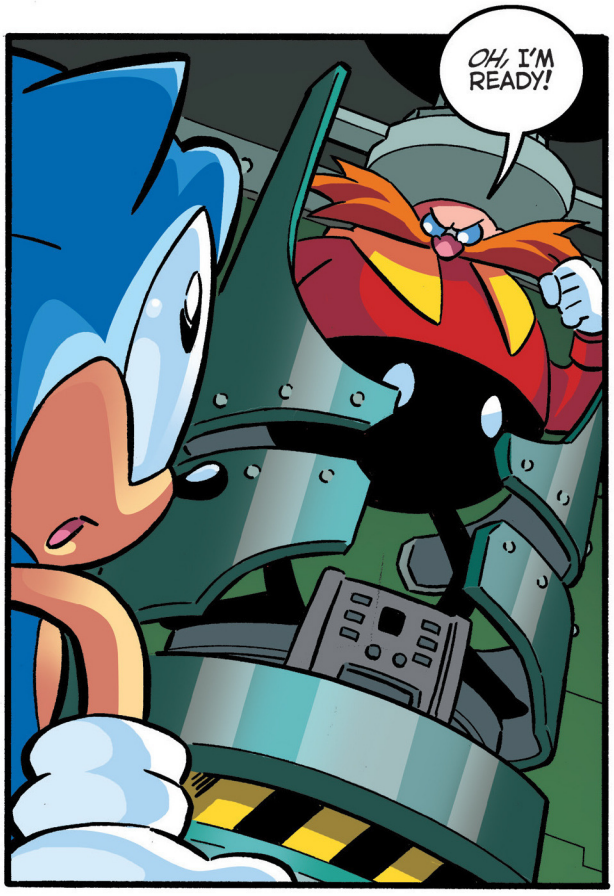

BOOM-BADDA-BOOM-BADDA-BOOM!
GAH!
HA! THAT WORKED, TOO!
ER... I MEAN... OF COURSE IT WORKED!
GIVE IT UP. FOLLOW ME.
"FALL." HA. PUN. FUNNY.


GREAT. ANOTHER ONE OF THESE PLACES.
SO I'D BETTER GET THIS OVER WITH QUICKLY!

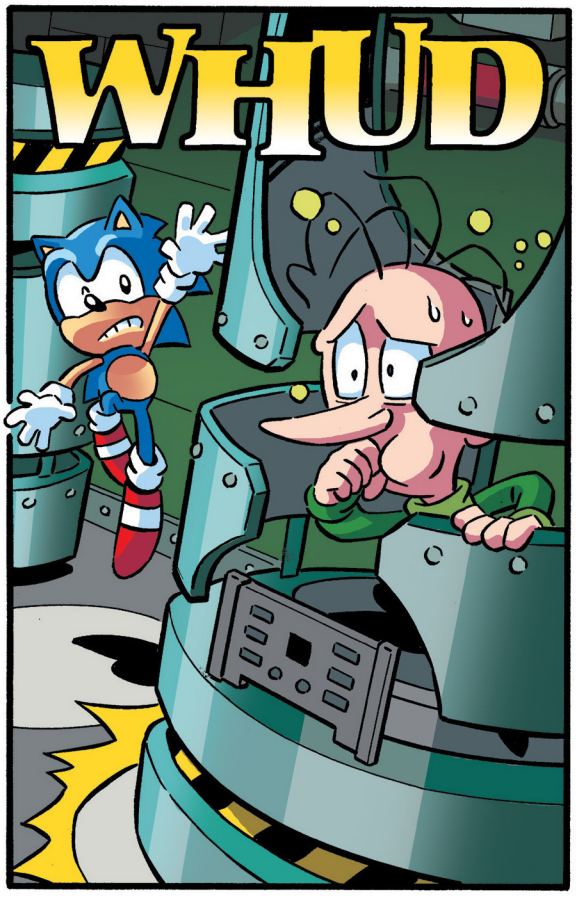

THAT WATER IS PURPLE. WATER SHOULDN'T BE PURPLE.
IT'S THE ONLY WAY FORWARD, THO', SO...
IT EVEN SMELLS PURPLE...

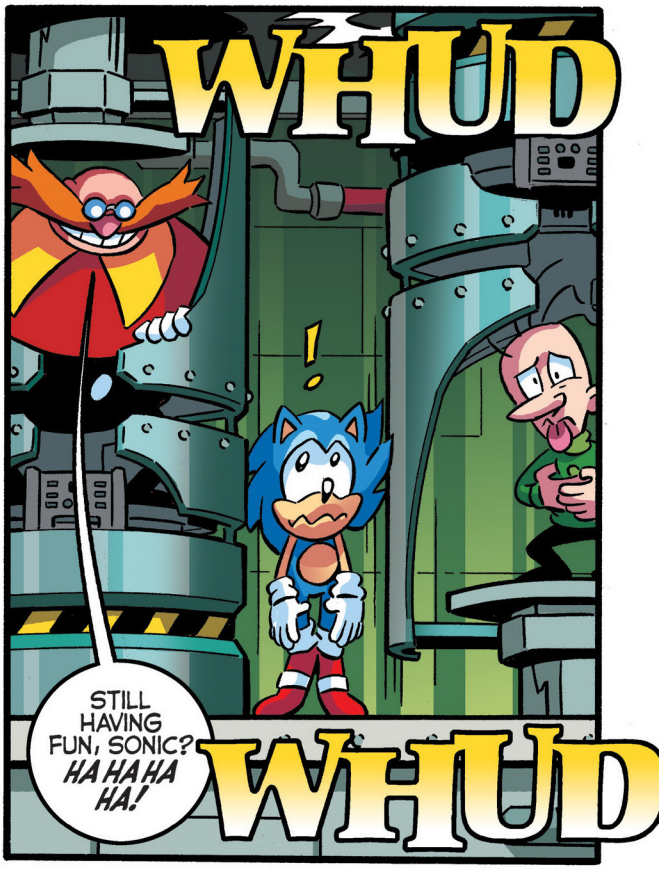

STEP ONE--KICK RO-BUTT-NIK. STEP TWO--GO HOME. STEP THREE--SHOWER FOREVER.
THE STINK *MIGHT* GO AWAY THEN...
HE SURVIVED ?!
HONESTLY? I WOULD'VE BEEN A LITTLE DISAPPOINTED IF HE HADN'T AT THIS POINT.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?! THERE'S A PIPELINE THERE THAT LEADS RIGHT BACK INTO THE BASE!
WE'RE GOING TO SQUASH THAT HIGH-OCTANE HEDGEHOG ONCE AND FOR ALL!
WITH WHAT--? *OH! OH...* BUT THOSE THINGS MAKE ME NAUSEOUS...

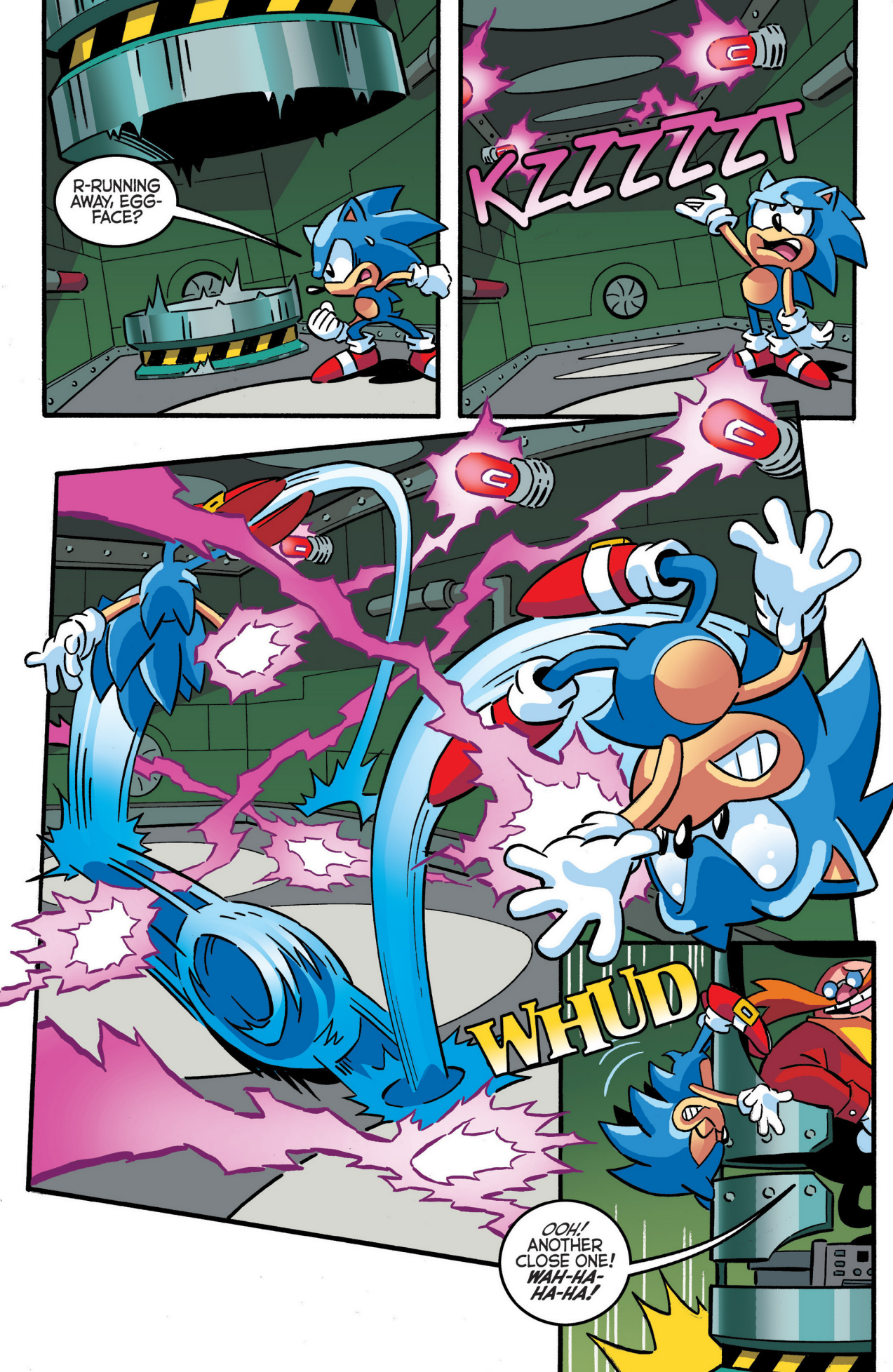
NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE HAPPY TO SMELL OZONE BURNING. THERE'S GOTTA BE A WAY BACK NEAR HERE...
BINGO!
ALL RIGHT, EGGMAN! GET READY FOR A POUNDING!
WHUD!

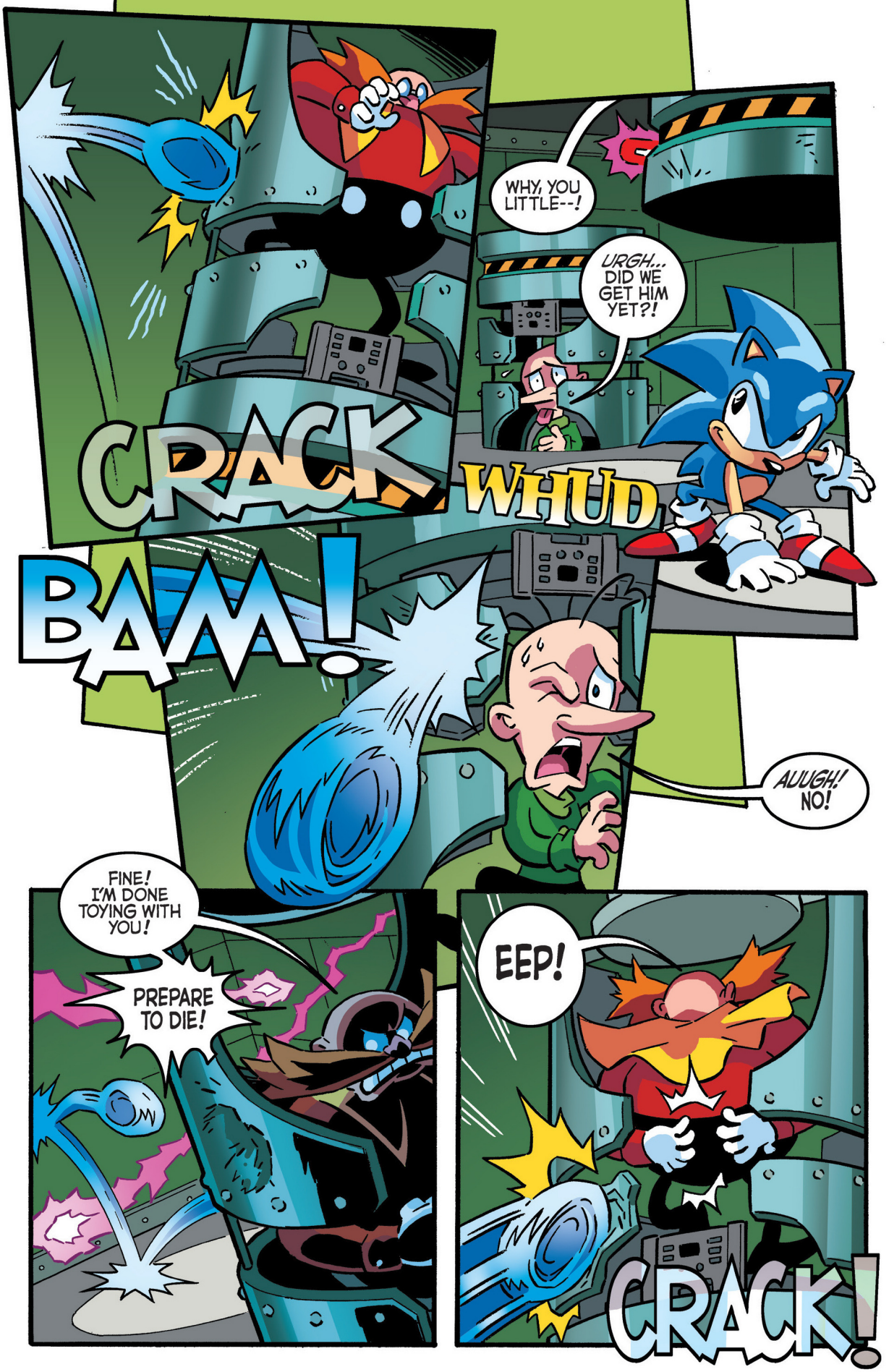

OH, I'M READY!

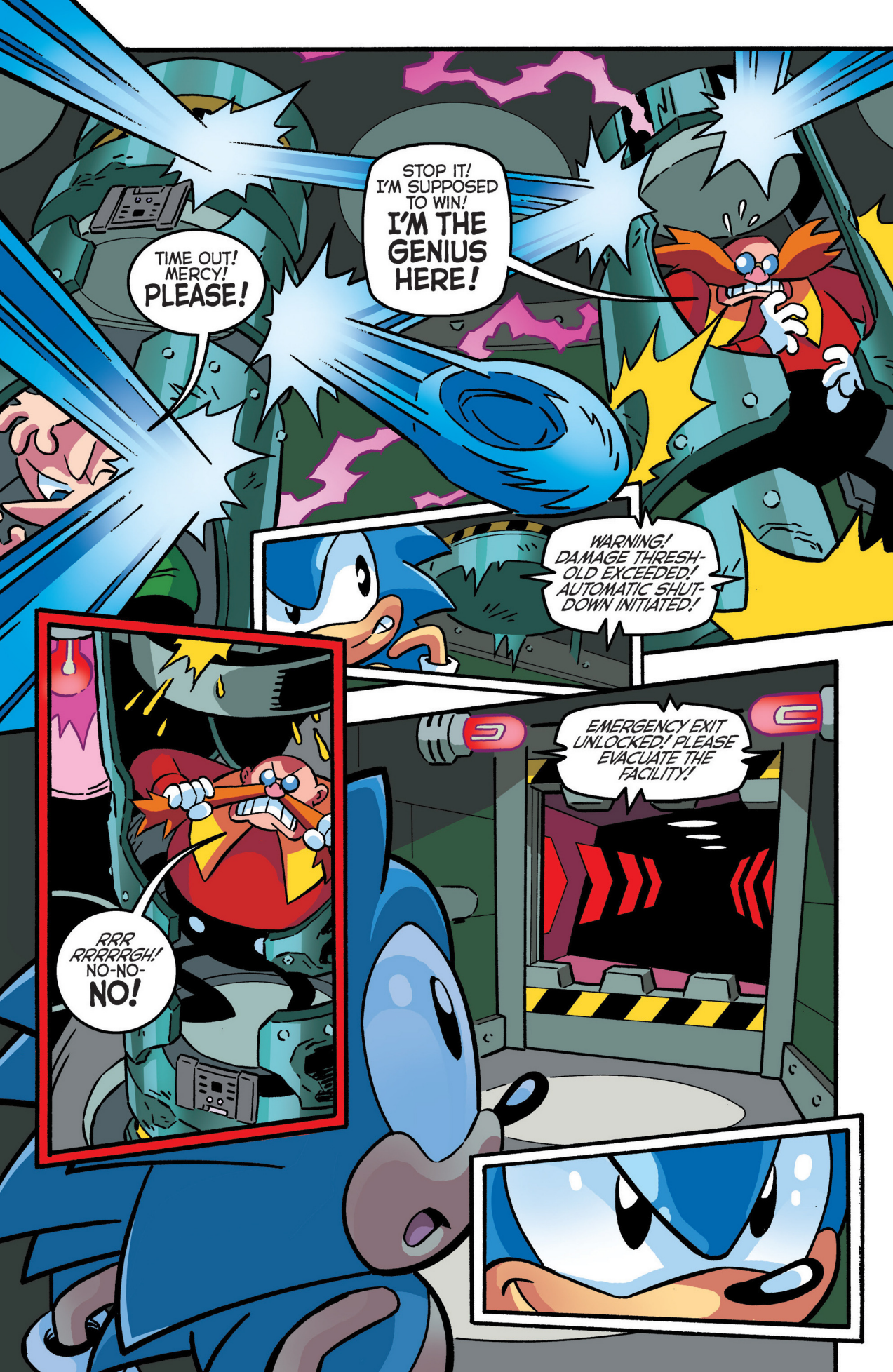
HA HAHA HA!
WHUD

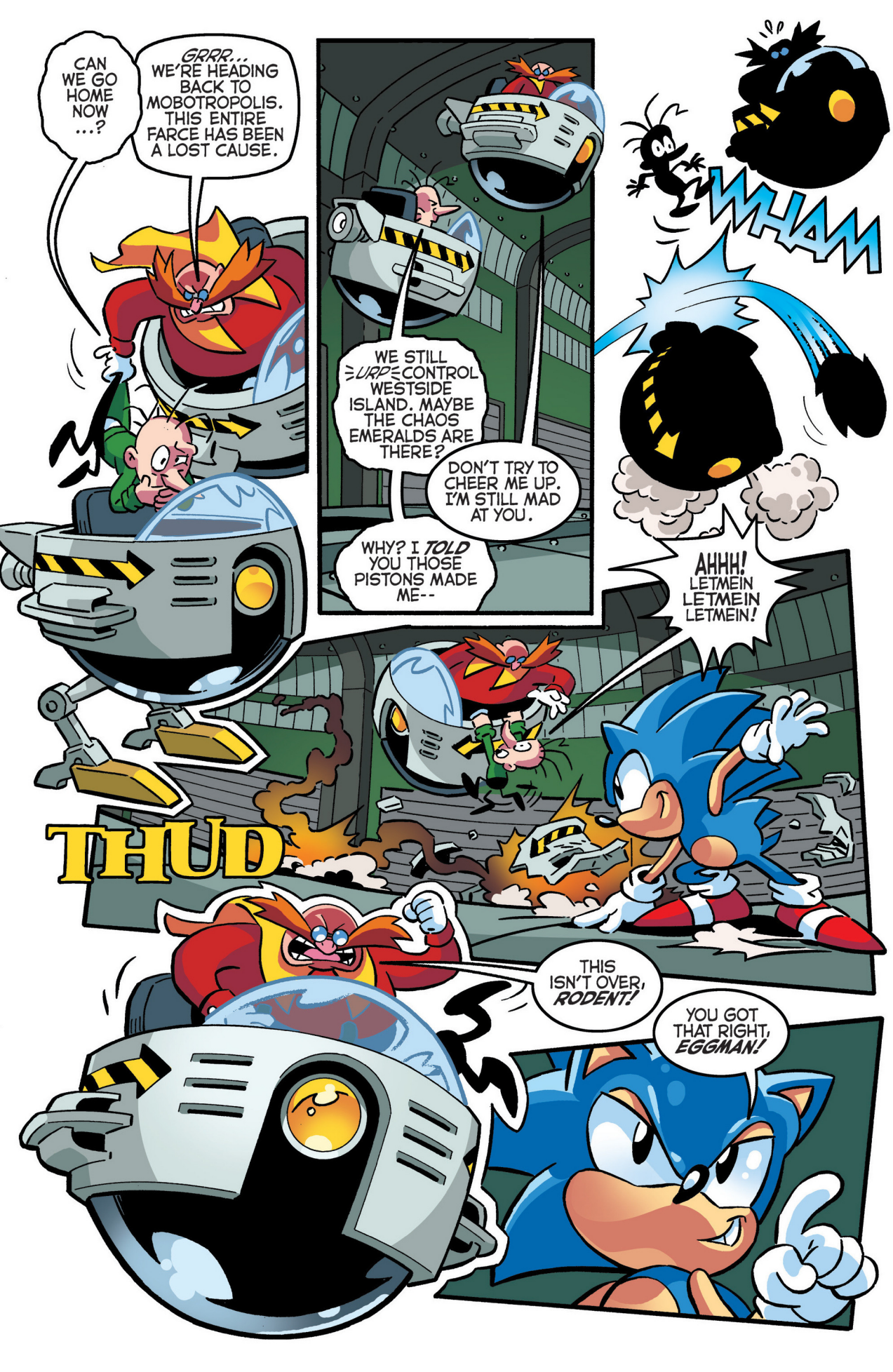

WHUD

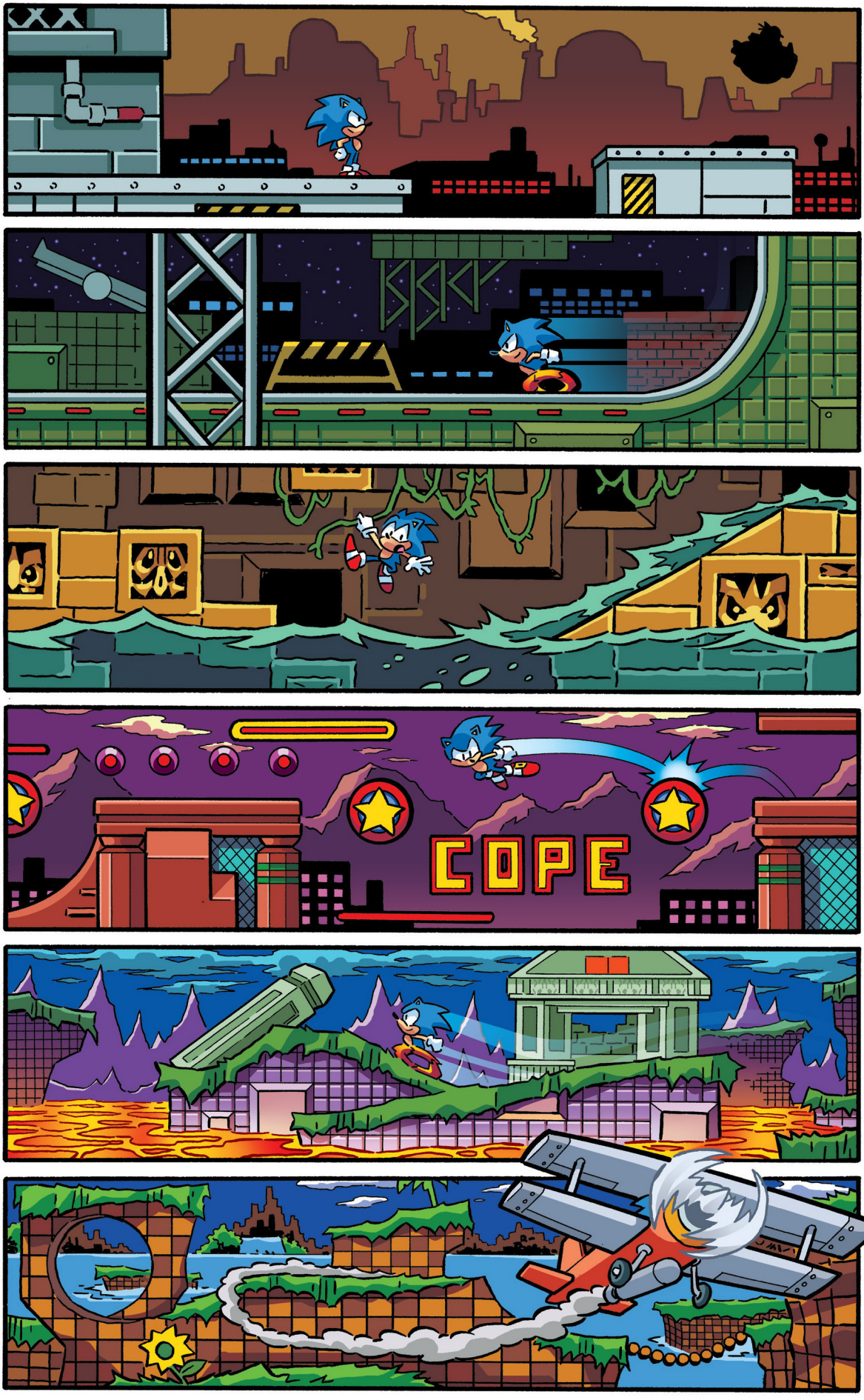

WHUD
!
STILL HAVING FUN, SONIC? HA HA HA HA!
WHUD


R-RUNNING AWAY, EGG-FACE?
KZIIIIIT
WHUD
OOH! ANOTHER CLOSE ONE! WAH-HA-HA-HA!

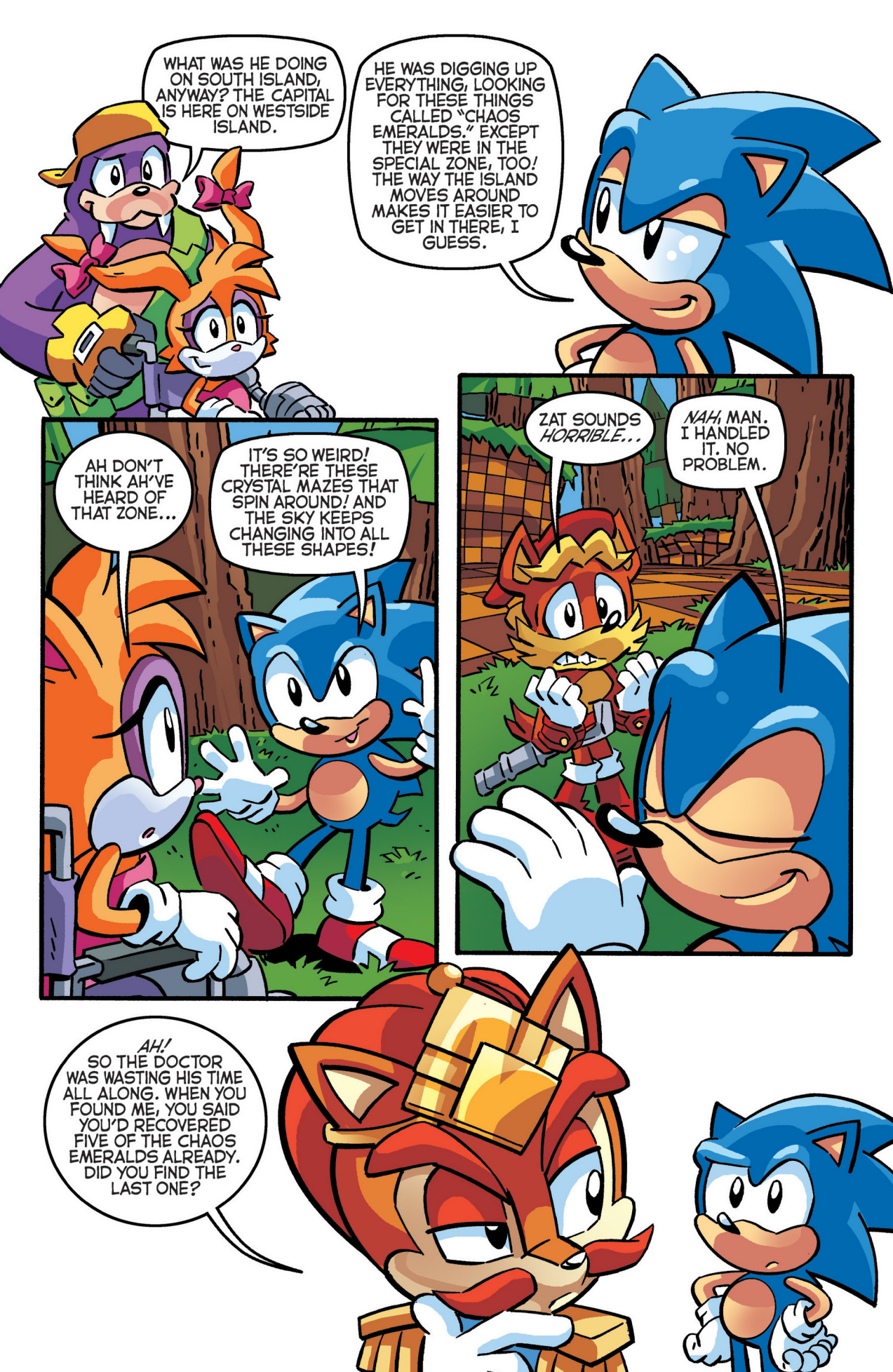

CRACK
WHUD
BAM!
WHY, YOU LITTLE--!
URGH... DID WE GET HIM YET?!
AUUGH! NO!
FINE! I'M DONE TOYING WITH YOU!
PREPARE TO DIE!
EEP!
CRACK!

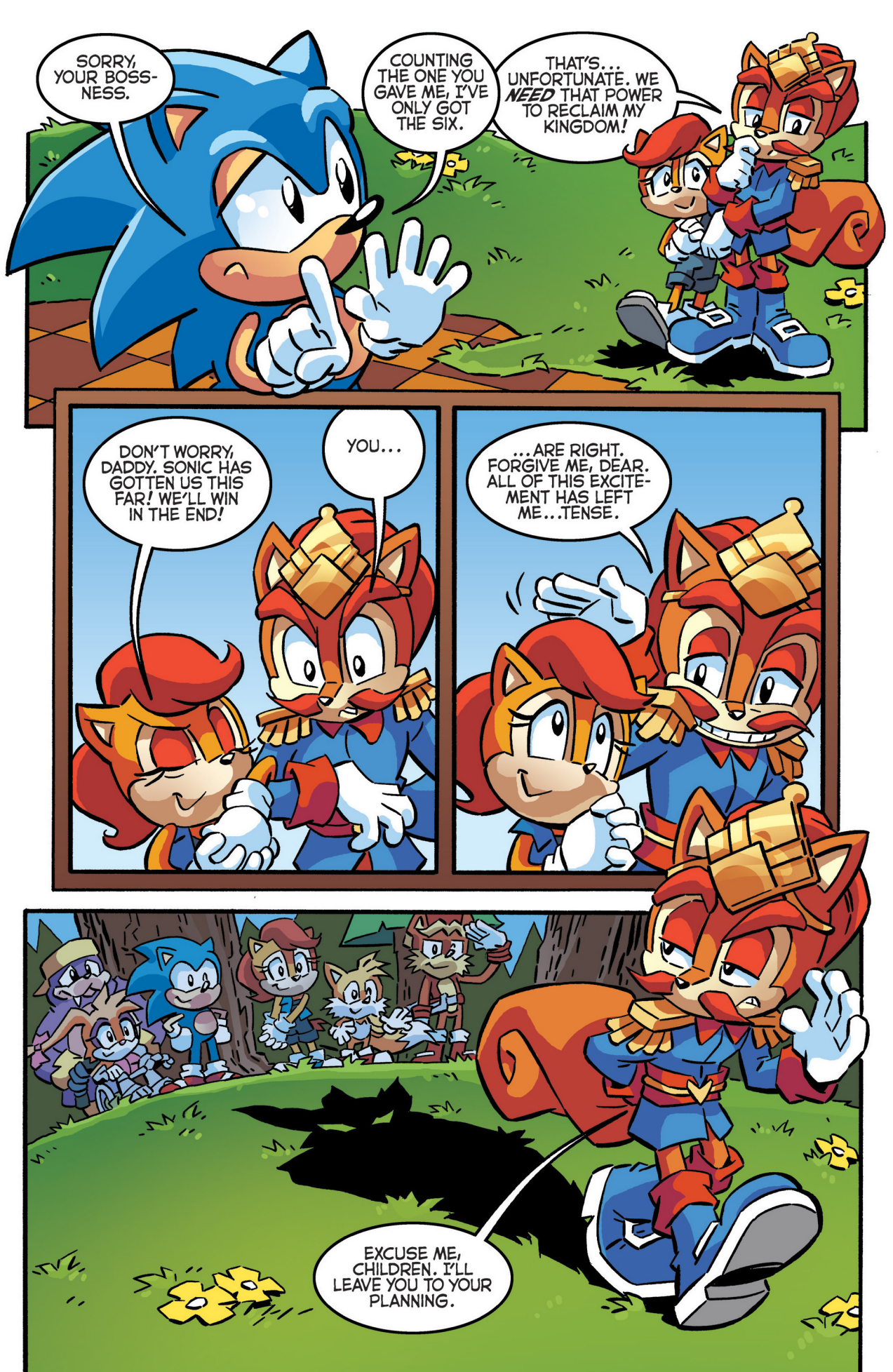

TIME OUT! MERCY! PLEASE!
STOP IT! I'M SUPPOSED TO WIN! I'M THE GENIUS HERE!
WARNING! DAMAGE THRESH-OLD EXCEEDED! AUTOMATIC SHUT-DOWN INITIATED!
EMERGENCY EXIT UNLOCKED! PLEASE EVACUATE THE FACILITY!
RRR RRRRRGH! NO-NO- NO!

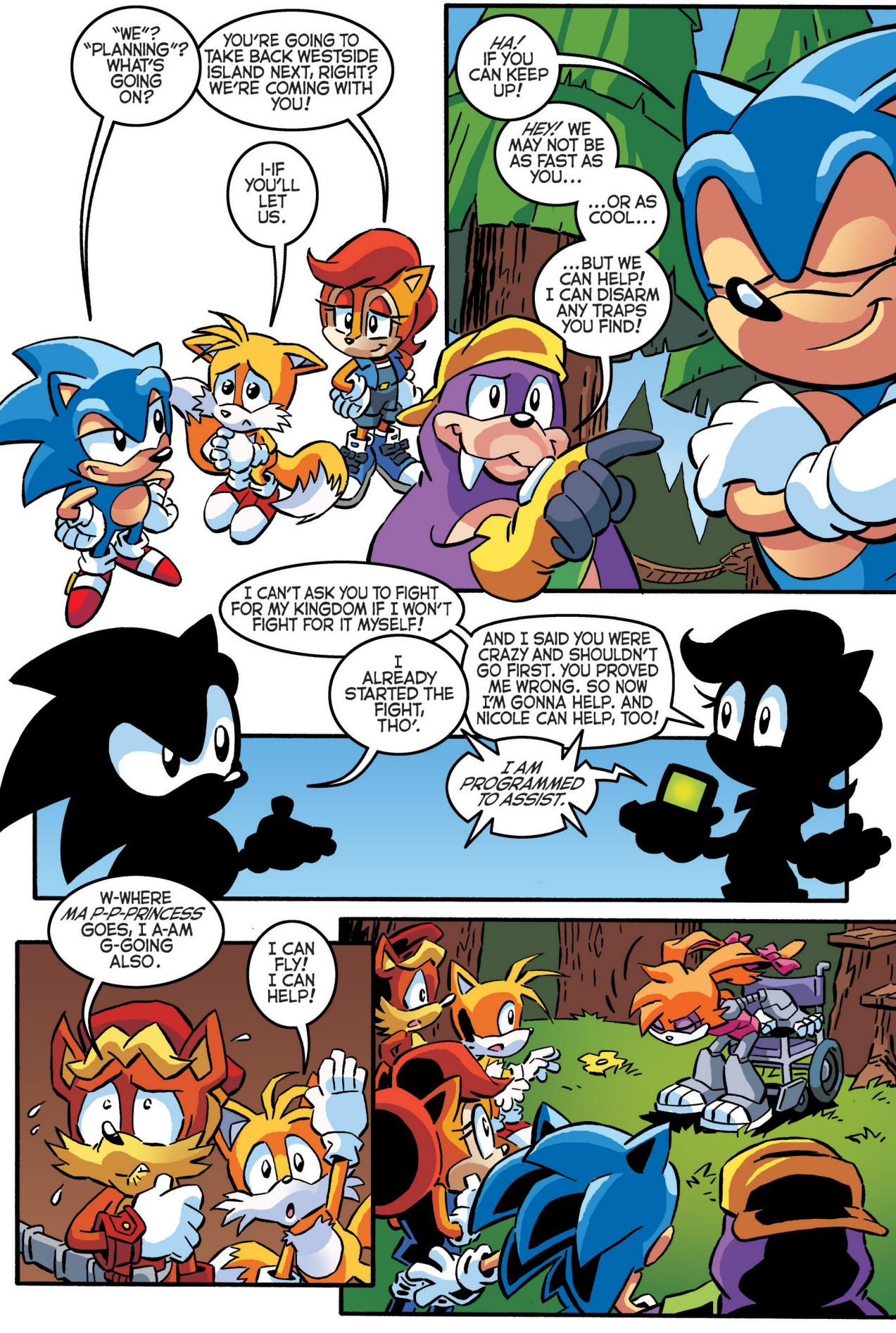

CAN WE GO HOME NOW ...?
GRRR... WE'RE HEADING BACK TO MOBOTROPOLIS. THIS ENTIRE FARCE HAS BEEN A LOST CAUSE.
WE STILL =URP= CONTROL WESTSIDE ISLAND. MAYBE THE CHAOS EMERALDS ARE THERE?
DON'T TRY TO CHEER ME UP. I'M STILL MAD AT YOU.
WHY? I TOLD YOU THOSE PISTONS MADE ME--
WHAM
AHHH! LETMEIN LETMEIN LETMEIN!
THUD
THIS ISN'T OVER, RODENT!
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT, EGGMAN!


COPE

OUTSIDE KNOTHOLE VILLAGE, WESTSIDE ISLAND...
YOU'RE BACK!
DIDJA DO IT, SONIC? DID YOU WIN?
SONIC
I KICKED THAT EGGMAN'S BUTT CLEAR ACROSS SOUTH ISLAND AND SENT HIM PACKING.
YOU ARE SO COOL!
AND YOU SAVED MY DADDY! WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!
OH, YEAH! HEY, KINGY! HOW'D YOU BEAT ME BACK HERE?
AH... YOU FORGET-- SOUTH ISLAND BELONGS TO MY KINGDOM AS WELL. I FOUND A TRANS-PORT AFTER YOU BROUGHT ME BACK FROM THE SPECIAL ZONE.
OKAY-- COOL!


WHAT WAS HE DOING ON SOUTH ISLAND, ANYWAY? THE CAPITAL IS HERE ON WESTSIDE ISLAND.
HE WAS DIGGING UP EVERYTHING, LOOKING FOR THESE THINGS CALLED "CHAOS EMERALDS." EXCEPT THEY WERE IN THE SPECIAL ZONE, TOO! THE WAY THE ISLAND MOVES AROUND MAKES IT EASIER TO GET IN THERE, I GUESS.
AH DON'T THINK AH'VE HEARD OF THAT ZONE...
IT'S SO WEIRD! THERE'RE THESE CRYSTAL MAZES THAT SPIN AROUND! AND THE SKY KEEPS CHANGING INTO ALL THESE SHAPES!
ZAT SOUNDS *HORRIBLE*...
NAH, MAN. I HANDLED IT. NO PROBLEM.
AH! SO THE DOCTOR WAS WASTING HIS TIME ALL ALONG. WHEN YOU FOUND ME, YOU SAID YOU'D RECOVERED FIVE OF THE CHAOS EMERALDS ALREADY. DID YOU FIND THE LAST ONE?


SORRY, YOUR BOSS-NESS.
COUNTING THE ONE YOU GAVE ME, I'VE ONLY GOT THE SIX.
THAT'S... UNFORTUNATE. WE *NEED* THAT POWER TO RECLAIM MY KINGDOM!
DON'T WORRY, DADDY. SONIC HAS GOTTEN US THIS FAR! WE'LL WIN IN THE END!
YOU...
...ARE RIGHT. FORGIVE ME, DEAR. ALL OF THIS EXCITE-MENT HAS LEFT ME...TENSE.
EXCUSE ME, CHILDREN. I'LL LEAVE YOU TO YOUR PLANNING.


"WE"? "PLANNING"? WHAT'S GOING ON?
YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE BACK WESTSIDE ISLAND NEXT, RIGHT? WE'RE COMING WITH YOU!
I-IF YOU'LL LET US.
HA! IF YOU CAN KEEP UP!
HEY! WE MAY NOT BE AS FAST AS YOU...
...OR AS COOL...
...BUT WE CAN HELP! I CAN DISARM ANY TRAPS YOU FIND!
I CAN'T ASK YOU TO FIGHT FOR MY KINGDOM IF I WON'T FIGHT FOR IT MYSELF!
I ALREADY STARTED THE FIGHT, THO'.
AND I SAID YOU WERE CRAZY AND SHOULDN'T GO FIRST. YOU PROVED ME WRONG. SO NOW I'M GONNA HELP. AND NICOLE CAN HELP, TOO!
I AM PROGRAMMED TO ASSIST.
W-WHERE MA P-P-PRINCESS GOES, I A-AM G-GOING ALSO.
I CAN FLY! I CAN HELP!

AH'M HALF ROBOT BECAUSE OF THAT FAT JERK. AND NOW THAT AH'M STANDIN', AH'M NOT GONNA SIT AGAIN. WE'RE GOIN' TO FREE WESTSIDE ISLAND WITH OR WITHOUT YOU, SUGAR-HOG.
OH. SO THAT'S HOW IT IS, HUH?
ALRIGHTY, PRINCESS. I SUPPOSE YOU'VE GOT A PLAN ON HOW TO FIGHT FOR YOUR FREEDOM?
YOU BET! TOGETHER, WE CAN BEAT THOSE AWFUL DOCTORS AND PUT MY DADDY BACK ON THE THRONE!
THEN WHY ARE WE STANDING AROUND? LET'S GO, YOU BUNCHA "FREEDOM FIGHTERS"!

Doctor Eggman's threat to South Island is OVER--
BUT WHAT'S HIS MASTER PLAN?
SONIC and the brand new FREEDOM FIGHTERS
are off to find out!
Next time, we'll take another RETRO LOOK into the next Classic Sonic epic!
UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN WITH
SONIC UNIVERSE, SONIC SUPER DIGEST AND THE
GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

Letter from the EDITOR

Editorial commentary complete with 16-bit graphics and blast processing!

IN THE BEGINNING

Hey there, Sonic comic aficionados! You may have noticed that this year marks the 25th anniversary of the Blue Blur. We here at Archie have already started our own celebrations with the extra special *Sonic: Mega Drive* one-shot comic, which I'm sure you enjoyed, but that wasn't enough!

The original cover sketch by yours truly and the finished piece by the legendary Patrick Spaziante! We based this cover on the ending screen from *Sonic 1*!

We wanted to embrace all of the Classic Sonic goodness. The answer? "Genesis of a Hero"! Our goal is to respect the foundations of the classic series and expand upon them with fun, quick action and a bit of background info to fill in some of those gaps in the Sonic comic history. We hope you dig it! Maybe we can do even more down the line!

In Spring Yard Zone, from *Sonic 1*, words like "COPE" and "CPU" float in the background. We don't know what their purpose is. If you do, please tell us!

Well, that's all this time. Gotta go fast!

– Vincent "Vin" Lovallo
Editor

SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG

SONIC GRAMS FAN ART

Andrew P. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

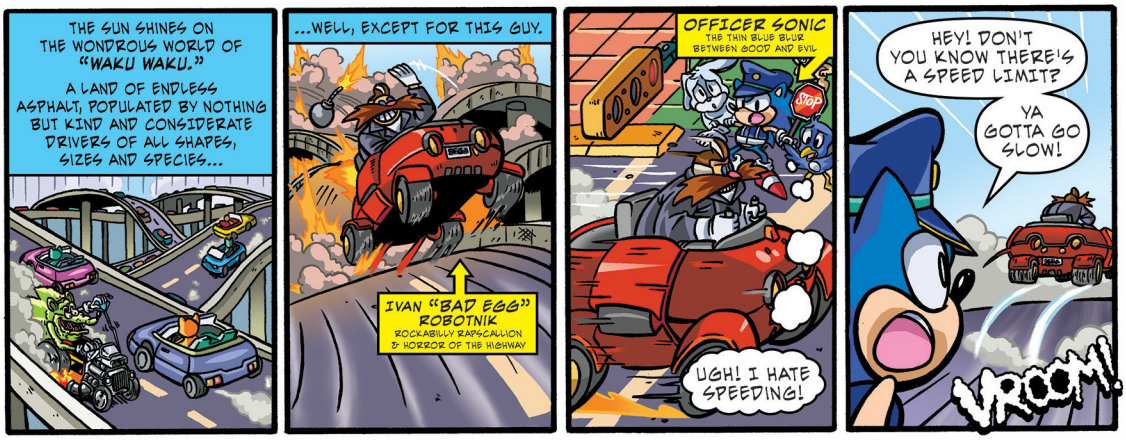
Julian from Toronto

Kendrick sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

DRAW/WRITE TO US @: SONIC GRAMS C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
629 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 100 – PELHAM, NY 10803-1242
E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM – OR TWEET AT US USING #SONICGRAMS!

OFF PANEL

- THE ADVENTURES OF - OFFICER SONIC PT. 1 Asphalt Assault


THE SUN SHINES ON THE WONDROUS WORLD OF "WAKU WAKU."
A LAND OF ENDLESS ASPHALT, POPULATED BY NOTHING BUT KIND AND CONSIDERATE DRIVERS OF ALL SHAPES, SIZES AND SPECIES...
...WELL, EXCEPT FOR THIS GUY.
IVAN "BAD EGG" ROBOTNIK
ROCKABILLY RAPSCALLION & HORROR OF THE HIGHWAY
OFFICER SONIC
THE THIN BLUE BLUR BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL
Stop
UGH! I HATE SPEEDING!
HEY! DON'T YOU KNOW THERE'S A SPEED LIMIT?
YA GOTTA GO SLOW!
VROOM!

SCRIPT: *ERIC ESQUIVEL* PENCILS: *RYAN JAMPOLE* INKS: *PATRICK WOODRUFF* COLORS: *ELAINA UNGER*

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 289

GENESIS OF A HERO

PART TWO